



THE

Scourge of Aristocracy,

AND REPOSITORY OF IMPORTANT
POLITICAL TRUTHS.

BY JAMES LYON.

No. IV.] For December 15, 1798. [Vol. I.

NATURE has left that Tincture in the Blood,
That all Men would be TYRANTS, if they cou'd.
If they forbear their Neighbor to devour,
'Tis not for want of WILL, but want of POWER.
JURE DIVINO.

Col. LYON's DIALOGUE.

[Concluded.]

NEI. **MUCH** is said about your letters, and the news-papers they contained. I have heard some say, that you sent 300 letters a week into Vermont, containing a lying news-paper, called the Aurora; some say, you must be supplied with those papers at the cost of the French; others say, that the carriage of them has made a great expence to the public.

Lyon. The story of 300 news-papers a week, cannot require contradiction.—No one charges me with neglecting my duty in the House, which takes up from 4 to 6 hours a day; nor do they say I employed any person to write for me. Is it not im-

possible for any man to write 300 letters a week, and in the space of time I had :—Every Member of Congress is furnished with three news-papers a day, such sort as he pleases. I have accustomed myself through life, to rise generally pretty early in the morning ; and I made it the business of the morning, to read and answer such letters as I received the day before ; and after I had read my news-papers, to inclose one in each letter ; these made 18 in a week, and whenever I found any thing extraordinary in a news-paper, I sent the money, and bought two or three, or half a dozen, or sometimes a dozen or more papers, and inclosed them to my friends, who, I thought, would be fond of the information.—I may have sent between 20 and 30 a week, I believe, in this way, on an average, and including a news-paper I paid for, to come from Philadelphia to my family, and another I paid for, to go to a Printer on the East side of the Mountain, at his request. My expence for news-papers last session, amounted to about 40 dollars, which I paid out of my wages ; and with that deduction, I have no reason to complain, nor occasion to accept of papers paid for by the French ; I am certain I have none offered ~~me~~, nor do I believe that any person has. Mr. Bache, the Republican Printer in Philadelphia, who is so much and so illy spoken of, I am well acquainted with : He is the grandson of the celebrated Franklin, and inherits his patriotism and other virtues ; he is, in my opinion, proof against

all the insinuations of his enemies. The French Republicans in Philadelphia, are his customers ; he told me the Consul took about a dozen of his papers, to send to different parts, which was all the countenance he had from them. I believe him, and I do not believe any Frenchman is capable of influencing him to publish a sentiment, which he should think injurious to his country.—The mail which contained my letters and news-papers, is carried by contract ; and if I had sent 300 weekly, the carriage would not have cost the public one penny. The Postmaster who delivers out free letters, receives two cents for each—this is all the expence.

Mei. Your enemies urge it against you, that the fracas between you and Griswold, has cost the public a great many thousand dollars.

Don. As to the expence, if there was any to the public, concerning the fracas between Mr. Griswold and myself, it cannot be imputed to me. As I never troubled Congress with it, they had no business with it : I told them so when they entered upon it, and that I was ready to decide the matter with Mr. Griswold, in a proper place immediately. My friends also urged the impropriety of Congress's procedure in the business, and they were ready to vote upon it, the first evening it was taken up, in the same manner they did at the ultimate decision ; but no rational person can suppose that any such thing ever makes an odds with the time of the session of Congress ; they will sit about so long, business or

no business: Many of them think there ought to be a constant session of Congress. The Republicans wished to adjourn this year by the first of April, and Congress could have closed about that time, if they chose; instead of that, they would, I believe, have been in session yet, had it not been for the danger of the Yellow Fever;—and should Congress make a permanent session of it, the cost of it would be but a trifle, compared with the great general amount of expence which the Federal Government authorises, I believe not more than a sixtieth part.

Nei. *I have heard a great deal said about a copy of a letter you brought from Philadelphia. I suppose it is the same that I have heard read, said to be from an American Gentleman in Paris, to a Member of Congress, in Philadelphia; some say it is a fabrication, others, that you have no business to read such a letter, while others find fault with you for reading a thing you dare not publish.*

Lyon. As to the copy of a letter which you speak of, I saw a copy only in the hands of a Senator, he read it in company where I was. I perceived it to be a statement of the causes of the differences between this country and France; and it contained many things which I had but little idea of before. I wondered it had not been published, and I was told the reason was, it had been received by a very modest Republican Member of Congress, who was not willing to have it published, lest his name should some how be called in question. I asked leave to

take a copy, from the copy I saw ; but the gentleman assured me he could not comply with my request, unless with the consent of the gentleman to whom it was written. I applied, and obtained leave under a strict injunction not to suffer it to be copied or published ; thus I obtained the copy, and when any friends who are enquiring into those measures that are leading to war with France, and I am tired of answering, I hand out that copy of a letter to be read, or read it myself. I have refused no man a sight of it, that asked it ; I am willing any person should read it that will take the trouble, let his political opinion be what it will.

Nci. *What do you think is to be the end of all this ? Are we to be constantly led on in this strain, until the people lose all patience, and make a general insurrection to shake off the shackles ?*

Lyon. We should never think of such a remedy ; the people should be patient until their neighbors, nay, majorities, see with them, and are willing to assist by their elections, to remedy the evils. Insurrection and Anarchy, is as bad as Tyranny and Monarchy.

Nci. *But is there any hope of its ever growing any better in that way ?*

Lyon. Yes, there is—I have a Philadelphia paper in my hand, which, after stating, that in the election for a Member of Congress in North Carolina, in the room of Mr. Bryan, who died this summer, the Republican candidate had succeeded. The paper

goes on to state, that "North-Carolina is the only State where any danger existed, that the Republican interest would be weakened, especially as the election came on soon after the crafty manœuvres of the Tories to spread and keep up an alarm. To many of the States, the Republicans may look with confidence for an accession of numbers in the next Congress.—Many events, besides, may turn up, to strengthen still further the Republican interest. The cause of Republicanism will spread, that of unequal government will daily grow more desperate, the effect of the late harsh and grinding measures will be better understood, and the Republicans will soon learn to confide in their strength ;"—so that we ought not to be discouraged.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing, I have seen a dirty supplement from the seat of falsehood and corruption at *Rutland Corner* ; its chief contents are repetitions of old lies, which have been a thousand times refuted ; I shall therefore only notice a few lies, which, for their novelty, deserve contradiction. One is, the insinuation that I reviled Mr. Smith, and his supporters.—My acquaintance all know that I have ever treated his name with respect.—Another is, with regard to writing a piece or pieces for the Bennington paper.—This is as false as any assertion which has ever issued from the same corrupt fountain. I have not wrote a line that has appeared in the Bennington paper for several month's, and

never wrote a line of the piece or pieces in question, nor did I ever see them until in print.

This same Rutland paper contains, among thousands of false and scandalous misrepresentations from other tory prints, the following absurdity, which I cannot avoid confuting, before I close this, viz.

"It is a fact, (says a Boston paper) which our friends in the country ought to contemplate with attention, that the merchant ships and goods piratically taken by the French, and confiscated; would have brought into the public coffers monies enough to have rendered a direct tax unnecessary! Let the advocates for French villainies, and the opposers of arming our vessels, think of this! and despise the men who have deceived them!"

The TRUE fact is, that the consumption of foreign articles has not as yet altered much in America, and it is goods that are consumed in America only that pay the duties. There has not been since last war, nor will there ever again be, any want of foreign commodities, so long as we are able to pay for them. Some years past, the American shipping imported three times the quantity of foreign commodities that were consumed in the United States; these were exported, and the owners had a drawback of the duties, which drawback, I have often heard, has been so managed as to injure the revenue. The amount of this superabundant trade was carried on by British capitals, which has had a great tendency to involve us in our present perplexities.

Look at this acknowledged fact with regard to the consumed commodities only paying the tax, and see who tries to deceive you.

Thus, *Fellow Citizens*, I present you with my opinions on the political subjects which now agitate the two parties in this country, in the simple and familiar mode of a *Dialogue*. I should not have thought of it, had I not found, in my late tour to the northward, that misinformation had made an impression on the minds of many Republicans ; and want of information had left some in doubt, while I learned that others were crying out, *What can Lyon say to all this ?*

The very little time I have had to spare, since I thought of presenting you with this, has prevented me from addressing you in any other than a plain style ; which, I hope, will be my excuse for any inaccuracies which may be found in it.

I have one request to make to those into whose hands this may fall, that they may read it with attention, before they condemn me. I shall endeavor to send it into all the towns in the district. Notwithstanding all that can be said on the subject of electioneering, every rational mind will allow me the privilege of vindicating my reputation, which has ever been dearer to me than life ; and in this way only can I do it at this juncture.

If I have erred, I have the consolation to know that it is not for want of the best and fullest inform-

ation on the subject, nor for want of a disposition to do every thing for the best good of this country ; it must be for want of those powers and faculties of judgment which mortals cannot, by their industry, attain. And should it be my fortune to meet the disapprobation of my constituents, for the line of conduct I have pursued, and a person disposed to pursue the opposite course of politics preferred, I shall acquiesce, and never cease to thank them for the honor heretofore done me, and to render them every service in my power. In whatever sphere it may be my fortune to move in future, it will be a gratification to me to recollect that I have been their faithful servant,

M. L Y O N.

Farrhaven, August 29, 1798.

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Mr. LIVINGSTON's SPEECH,
ON THE SEDITION BILL.

MR. LIVINGSTON said, that notwithstanding the sarcasms which had been thrown out against those who oppose this measure ; notwithstanding that kind of accommodating principle which has been set up and reiterated, that the powers of this Constitution extend to every possible case—a principle which goes to the destruction of State authorities, and makes that instrument mean any thing or nothing ; notwithstanding this, he should again venture to engage the attention of the House, whilst he endeavored to show that this bill is not only con-

trary to the spirit, but to the direct letter of the Constitution.

The Constitution declares, that "No law shall be passed to abridge the liberty of speech, or of the press." Let us enquire, said Mr. Livingston, what was the liberty enjoyed at the time this declaration was agreed to, and see whether citizens will enjoy the same liberty after this law passes, that they then enjoyed. Will gentlemen say, that the same liberty of writing and speaking did not exist then, that now exists? If they will not say this, must they not allow that the Constitution is positive in prohibiting any change in this respect? Gentlemen may call this liberty an evil, if they please: If it be an evil (which he was ~~far~~ from believing) it is an evil perpetrated by the Constitution.

The Constitution seems to have contemplated cases which might arise at a future day; it seems to have foreseen that majorities (far be it from me to believe that the present majority is of the number) might be actuated by dispositions hostile to the government; that it might wish to pass laws to suppress the only means by which its corrupt views might be made known to the people, and therefore says, *No law shall be passed to abridge the liberty of speech, and of the press.* This privilege is connected with another dear and valuable privilege, the liberty of conscience.—What is liberty of conscience? Gentlemen may to-morrow establish a National Religion, agreeably to the opinion of a majority of

this House ; on the ground of an uniformity of worship being more consistent with public happiness, than a diversity of worship. The doing of this is not less forbidden than the act which the House are about to do.

But it is said, will you suffer a Printer to abuse his fellow-citizens with impunity, ascribing his conduct to the very worst of motives ? Is no punishment to be inflicted on such a person ? Yes ; there is a remedy for offences of this kind, in the laws of every State in the Union. Every man's character is protected by law, and any man who shall publish a libel on any part of the government, is liable to punishment ; not by laws which we ourselves have made, but by laws passed by the several States. And is not this most proper ? Suppose a libel was written against the President, where is it most probable such an offence would receive an impartial trial ; in a court the Judges of which are appointed by the President—by a Jury selected by an officer holding his office at the will of the President ; or in a court independent of any influence whatever ?—The States are as much interested in the preservation of the general government, as we are. We do wrong when we attempt to set up interests independent of the States. They are desirous of preserving the Constitution as it now stands ; and it is therefore much more probable that justice will be found in a court in which neither of the parties have influence, than in one which is wholly in the power of the President.

But it is said, this government is liable to suffer abuse of the worst kind ; the worst motives may be attributed to it, the falsest statements made with respect to its conduct, and no hand can be held out to protect it. For my own part, I believe there ought to be no such power. I believe every independent Government is equal to the protection of its private or public character ; but when gentlemen speak of *slanders against the Government*, I know of no such thing. We are charged, for instance, with passing an unconstitutional act, with violating our oaths. What answer is it proposed we should make to the charge ? We are not to disprove the fact, and let the public judge between us ; but we are immediately to prosecute the man who makes the charge. You may, by thus acting, establish error as soon as truth ; you put them both on the same footing ; you crush them by force of arms, and not by the force of reason. This is the same system which heretofore lighted the fires of Smithfield, and which has produced so much bloodshed and ruin amongst mankind.

But even the Constitutional objection to this bill, great as it is, is of small importance when it is considered in another point of view. He said, he looked upon it as a link in the chain of events leading to the most serious consequences—events which he had constantly opposed and deplored ; leading to a practical change in our Government. Gentlemen may think this is not so. He had frequently heard them

Speak of weak and rotten parts of the system ; they may wish only to strengthen the weak parts, and cut out the rotten. But, Mr. Livingston said, he admired the Constitution in its present form ; he had superadded to this admiration the sanction of an oath. Both inclination and duty, therefore, led him to oppose measures, which, in his opinion, went to a radical change of it.

Many writers have amused themselves, and instructed the world, by delineating the means by which free governments gradually become oppressive ; and some of them, the means by which free governments become despotisms. He would take the liberty of reading an extract out of one of the best writings he had seen on the subject. The best in this view, as it shews how a government organized like ours may come to destruction. He would barely read the passage, and if it did not make any impression on the minds of gentlemen, he should despair of saying any thing that would.—[Mr. Dana enquired the name of the author.—Mr. Livingston replied, the book he alluded to, was John Adams's Defence of the American Constitutions.] Whilst he read this, he wished it to be recollected, that it had been declared on this floor, that none but men of a certain political opinion would be chosen by the President to office.—Mr. L. then read as follows :

"A few conspicuous characters will be continued in their seats in the Sovereign Assembly, from one election to another, whatever changes are made in the seats

are here described, and he believed the representation to be a just one, it behoved us to beware in time.

Mr. L. would be glad if gentlemen would inform the house of any one good which would be derived from the passage of this bill; of any evil which it will remedy! If they could not do this, he further intreated them to think of the evils which it may produce. He feared it would lessen the confidence of the people in the government. By the addresses which we see pour in from every quarter, it would seem that this confidence is now possessed; and he hoped that government would be careful not to lose it. But to judge from addresses alone, it was but a fallacious mode of judging. In proof of this, Mr. Livingston referred to Dalrymple's history of the reign of James I. which shews this monarch was overpowered with the most fallsome addresses at a time when the people in general were disaffected to his government to the highest degree. This, he said, was a strong historical fact, which ought to have due weight. The political situation of this country very much resembles that of England at the time alluded to.

The effect of this bill may be to lift a few men into consequence, who were never of any before, and to ruin two or three others, but it will be in vain to attempt to hide the misconduct of government from the people. The thing will defeat its own end. They will, besides, be struck with the

flagrant breach which it makes in the Constitution, compared with which, he looked upon war, pestilence, and every other calamity as of trifling consequence. Time may remove these, but of an unforgiving, dreary despotism, who can see the end? God forbid that we should ever be called upon to employ our talents to the overturning of such a government!

Extract of a letter from Col. LYON, in Gael at Vergennes,, to a Member of Congress in Philadelphia, dated Nov. 22, 1798.

“IN my last I wrote you, that, “so ignorant was I of law proceedings, that I expected to object off the inveterate part of the Jury, without giving particular reasons, or supporting them by evidence.” I should have told you, that when I objected to two of the Jury, Judge Patterson enquired, For what reason? I answered, that I expected I had a right to object off a number, without giving a reason.— He observed to me, that I had not; that in a case like this, I should have no such right in the State Court of Vermont, and that I did not know the Laws of my own State. This silenced me; for altho’ I am, perhaps, as well acquainted as any man with the principle of our State laws, they had lately been under revision; since the late publication, I

around them ; by superior art, address, and opulence, by more splendid birth, reputations, and connections, they will be able to intrigue with the people and their leaders out of doors, until they worm out most of their opposers, and introduce their friends ; to this end they will bestow all offices, contracts, privileges in commerce, and other emoluments on the latter and their connections, and throw every vexation and disappointment in the way of the former, until they establish such a system of hopes and fears throughout the State as shall enable them to carry a majority in every fresh election of the House. The Judges will be appointed by them and their party, and of consequence will be obsequious enough to their inclinations. The whole Judicial authority, as well as the Executive, will be employed, perverted, and prostituted to the purposes of electioneering. No justice will be attainable, nor will innocence or virtue be safe in the Judiciary courts, but for the friends of the prevailing leaders : legal prosecutions will be instituted and carried on against opposers, to their vexation and ruin, and as they have the public purse at command as well as the Executive and Judicial power, the public money will be expended in the same way. No favors will be attainable but by those who will court the ruling demagogues in the House by voting for their friends and instruments ; and pensions and pecuniary rewards and gratifications, as well as honors and offices of every kind voted to friends and partizans. The leading minds and most influential characters among the Clergy will be courted, and the views of the youth in this department will be

turned upon those men, and the road to promotion and employment in the church will be obstructed against such as will not worship the general idol. Capital characters amongst the Physicians will not be forgotten, and the means of acquiring reputation and practice in the healing art, will be to get the State trumpeters on the side of the youth. The Bar too will be made so subservient, that a young gentleman will have no chance to obtain a character or clients, but by falling in with the views of the Judges and their creator. Even the theatres and actors and actresses, must become politicians and convert the public pleasures into engines of popularity for the governing members of the house. The press, that great barrier and bulwark of the rights of mankind, when it is protected in its freedom by law, can now no longer be free; if the authors, writers, and printers will not accept of that hire that will be offered them, they must submit to the ruin that will be denounced against them. The presses with much secrecy and concealment, will be made the vehicles of calumny against the minority, and of panegyric and empirical appraisals of the leaders of the majority, and no remedy can possibly be obtained. In one word, the whole system of affairs and every conceivable motive of hope and fear, will be employed to promote the private interests of a few, and their obsequious majority; and there is no remedy but in arms!"

So remedy! he hoped the people of this country would never be forced to have recourse to it. If the fatal tendency of certain measures be what they

are here described, and he believed the representation to be a just one, it behoved us to beware in time.

Mr. L. would be glad if gentlemen would inform the house of any one good which would be derived from the passage of this bill; of any evil which it will remedy! If they could not do this, he further intreated them to think of the evils which it may produce. He feared it would lessen the confidence of the people in the government. By the addresses which we see pour in from every quarter, it would seem that this confidence is now possessed; and he hoped that government would be careful not to lose it. But to judge from addresses alone, it was but a fallacious mode of judging. In proof of this, Mr. Livingston referred to Dalrymple's history of the reign of James I. which shews this monarch was overpowered with the most flattery addresses at a time when the people in general were disaffected to his government to the highest degree. This, he said, was a strong historical fact, which ought to have due weight. The political situation of this country very much resembles that of England at the time alluded to.

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flagrant breach which it makes in the Constitution, compared with which, he looked upon war, pestilence, and every other calamity as of trifling consequence. Time may remove these, but of an unforgiving, dreary despotism, who can see the end? God forbid that we should ever be called upon to employ our talents to the overturning of such a government!

Extract of a letter from Col. LYON, in Gaol at Vergennes, to a Member of Congress in Philadelphia, dated Nov. 22, 1798.

“IN my last I wrote you, that, “so ignorant was I of law proceedings, that I expected to object of the inveterate part of the Jury, without giving particular reasons, or supporting them by evidence.” I should have told you, that when I objected to two of the Jury, Judge Patterson enquired, For what reason? I answered, that I expected I had a right to object off a number, without giving a reason.— He observed to me, that I had not; that in a case like this, I should have no such right in the State Court of Vermont, and that I did not know the Laws of my own State: This silenced me; for altho I am, perhaps, as well acquainted as any man with the principle of our State laws, they had lately been under revision; since the late publication, I

had not paid so strict attention to them, as to have been able at that moment to shew him he was wrong. On examination, I find the following paragraph in an act of the Legislature of the State of Vermont, entitled, *An Act for the punishment of certain capitals and other high crimes and misdemeanors*—"And it is further enacted, That if any person shall defame any Court of Justice, or any sentence or proceedings thereof, or shall defame any Magistrates, Judges, or Justices of any such Court, touching any act or sentence therein passed, on conviction thereof before the Supreme Court of Judicature, such person shall be punished by fine not exceeding two hundred dollars."—And in the same act is the following clause, "And be it further enacted, That every person indicted for any crime mentioned in this act, who shall have duly pleaded to the indictment found against him, and put himself on the country for trial, shall be admitted peremptorily to challenge six of the Jurors, and as great a number further as he shall shew good cause for challenging."—Thus it may be further seen how I have been dealt with about a Jury.

The law of the United States says, "And Jurors in all cases to serve in the Courts of the United States, shall be designated by lot, or otherwise, according to the mode of forming Juries therein, now practised, so far as the laws of the same shall render such designation practicable by the Courts or Marshals of the United States."—I will not pretend to

say that this clause means any thing; but if it does, I should suppose it means to give the person on trial as good a chance with regard to a Jury, as he would have in a trial of the same magnitude in the State Court. But here you may see, that in a trial where not more than two hundred dollars property is concerned, and for a crime as near similar as any in the law, to that I am charged with, the State Court is obliged to allow six Jurymen to be peremptorily challenged off, while in a cause wherein I was endangered of the loss of my liberty for two years, and of two thousand dollars, I was not allowed to challenge off two, and was rebuked because I mentioned it!

I had taken a notion (whether well or ill-founded I do not pretend to determine) that the severity I have met with was intended to drive the people of this country (who have been violently agitated) to extremities, and to irritate them to break the gaol, and release me. As I have looked through these grates, I have seen many of the young lads, who have been waiting impatiently for Colonels, Majors, and Captains, commissions in the new army, strutting through the streets with a great deal of glee, and I fancied their expectations were on tip-toe for the event of the gaol's being broke.

The President has exercised a great share of prudence, in keeping back the commissioning the new regiments; but the appearance of an insurrection of 1000 men to break this gaol, I dare say they

think would be sufficient cause for the issuing 500 commissions. I not only felt the same repugnance that I have ever done against insurrection or mobbery; but I have felt the strongest aversion imaginable against being in any wise the cause of a thing of this kind. This, added to the idea that such a step would be answering the purpose of my enemies, and the enemies of American Liberty, made me firmly resolve to suffer any kind of death here, rather than be taken out by violence. The people soon became acquainted with my determination, and grew calm.

As to my situation here—soon after I was confined, I got a friend to apply to the Common Council of this city) who have power, it seems, of fixing what shall be considered the Gaol) for a better room in this house. I had, at the request of my friends, wrote to the Marshal, proposing that they would give bonds for 100,000 dollars, that I would not leave the room which might be fixed on. He answered, he could do nothing about it.—Two gentlemen called on me, and informed me they were a Committee from the Common Council, to let me know, that they had taken my case into consideration, and did not see it consistent to make any order about an other room, but every thing should be done to accommodate me where I was; a window should be put up, and a stove should be fixed in the room. They told me, that if I would procure a stove, I should be paid for it. I remonstrated against their leaving it with me, confined, and from home, to get

the stove : They assured me one should be procured ; and as there was another gaol in the county, there should be no person committed here, to intrude upon or incommode me. However, I had been here almost three weeks, before I got the window, which contains four panes of glass. About the same time, after repeated applications, I got intelligence from the Common Council, that they should do nothing about a stove ; if I had one, I must procure it myself. It took another week to get this news to my family, and to procure a stove, get it here, and set it up : So that I was near four weeks here, without sight of fire, except my candle ; in which time I suffered more with the cold than I had in twenty years before. Nor has any more regard been paid to the other assurance, than to the promise of the stove. Commitments into this room are frequent ; some prisoners stay half an hour, some six hours, and some twenty-four ; and one poor creature was kept in four days and four nights, on an attachment for twenty dollars : So poor was he, that I had to pay the Gaoler's fees when he went out. He had such a terrible dysentery as caused the room to smell worse than any hospital I was ever in. He slept but little, and I less. This, I was almost sure would sicken me, and throw me into a fever, as I was in an ill state of health before I came here, but contrary to all expectation, I am at present pretty well—“ *God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb.*”

The Gaoler is a humane man, his wife is an exceeding well-disposed woman ; (her father was killed in Bennington battle) they both seem to be really desirous to do every thing for my accommodation, in their power. An English gentleman, by the name of *Byrd*, who is said to be a violent Federalist, has paid the most attention, and shewed the most decency and humanity toward me of any of the citizens of Vergennes ; he, as well as the Parson of the parish, have politely furnished me with such books and news papers as the place affords. With these I amuse myself, by candle light, and in a clear day, when I stand by the window, I can see to read ; in a dark day I can not.

As I am permitted to receive every thing that I procure for myself, and my friends are admitted to see me, I endeavor to make myself easy. Altho' it is forty-four miles from this to my house, and the roads excessive bad, both by the nature of the land and the time of year, my wife has been twice to see me, and were it not for the little ones (three of whom are under nine years old) and the family cares, which devolve heavier upon her during my absence, she would, like Madame la Fayette, be proud to immerse herself with her husband the whole time of my confinement.

As the time draws nigh, for the session of Congress, I think I ought to be among you, and that my privilege is violated by my confinement here. I am contrasted by some I talk with, by an opinion

"SIR,

"**I**F, amidst the multitude of addresses with which you are presented from every quarter of the union, you can yield a moment's attention to the freeholders of Prince Edward County, they beg leave to lay before you somewhat of their feelings and opinions on the present awful crisis of American affairs.

It is not our design to approach the Chief Magistrate of the United States without respect, while we deliver our sentiments with the unreservedness and independence of freemen. Obedience to the laws, and attachment to the government established by the choice of our country, we esteem as the primary duties of good citizens. But while we acknowledge this principle, we cannot relinquish the constitutional privilege of uttering our approbation or censure of those measures, by which our highest interests, and most valuable rights are strongly affected.

Be assured, Sir, that it is our firm resolution, to repair to the American standard, when our exertions shall be necessary to repel the invasion, or aggressions of a foreign foe: and that we are prepared to sacrifice property and life, in the defence of our country. Yet, contemplating war as the most dreadful of human calamities, except the scourge of despotism and the insolence of tyrants, we censure and regret the policy by which we

shall be unnecessarily involved in its horrors; particularly, when no proportionate object can be attained by its pursuit. Can we, for an instant, flatter ourselves, that the strength of America, destitute as she is of the means of attacking a distant enemy, is competent to the great scheme of humbling the haughtiness, and the power of France? or of compelling her to a compensation for past injuries which has been sought in vain by negotiation? A negotiation commenced without respect to these considerations, which, if observed, would have afforded the pleasing hope of success, and which has, we fear, been too hastily abandoned.


Earnestly deprecating the mischiefs that must result from a conflict such as that on which the government seems to be determined, we entreat you, Sir, to retract the rash resolution you have formed, of ceasing to make overtures of accommodation to the French, and to adopt some speedy and effectual plan for conciliating the differences between the two republics. A contrary policy we apprehend, will incur the danger of binding our fate, to that of a government opposed essentially to our constitutional principles, tottering to its basis, and verging rapidly to decay.

Nor can we be silent upon another subject. Some of the most distinguished acts of the late session of Congress, which have received the last legal sanction of your approbation, merit, in our judg-

ment, the bitterest censure. We have been heretofore reluctant to believe that there were characters in our federal councils capable of designing the overthrow of our rights, and the destruction of our liberties. But the odious Alien and Sedition Bills have gone far towards establishing us in this persuasion. When we see the freedom of speech criminated and restricted; the trial by Jury abolished—as far as relates to a comprehensive description of individuals, and the President invested with a dangerous and unlimited power, which may be exercised for the most oppressive purposes; we are seriously alarmed at the probable consequences, and reprobate those flagrant violations of the supreme law of our land—a law that ought ever to be deemed sacred and which it is highly criminal to infringe. If a single infraction of the Constitution is committed, and acquiesced in, we dread the precedent as leading to similar evils, the extent of which is incalculable. Permit us then to flatter ourselves, that your constitutional powers will be exerted, on the earliest occasion, in the repeal of acts, which even zealous friends of your administration do not advocate.

In Behalf of the Meeting,

P. JOHNSON, *Chairman.*



FAIR QUESTIONS

TO ALL SINCERE REPUBLICANS AND
GOOD MEN.

SHOULD the French land a large army in Ireland, will they be more to blame in assisting the Irish to establish *an elective government*, like ours, than the English were in assisting the Vendéans, Chouans, &c. to restore the old *absolute* military despotism of France, which was formerly the theme of unceasing ridicule and execration in G. Britain?

If the Irish wish for an elective government, and freedom for other religious societies besides the church of England [or Ireland, as they call it] will they be more to blame in *asking* for, and *using* foreign assistance, than we were? Will the French, who sent us a fleet, an army, clothing, arms, ammunition, and money, be more blameable for giving the Irish such assistance? If Washington, Rochambeau, and Fayette, took Cornwallis at Yorktown, why may not an Irish General, and one or two French Generals, take Cornwallis in Dublin?

If taxation and representation, in 1775, were held to be inseparable for two millions of Americans, who made many of their own provincial laws, why ought they not to be held inseparable for three millions of Catholics in Ireland, who have not (Great God of Liberty) a *single vote*? Must not any man who wishes the Irish to be unrepresented, be an enemy to liberty, covering his actual hatred to freedom under a declamation against French principles?

FROM THE NEWARK CENTINEL.

Mess. Pennington & Dodge,

A PERSON not much acquainted with politics, who having heard of a Direct Tax, and a Sedition Law, and being somewhat awed by the latter, as it is said that seditious persons must be sent to the State Prison (or what some folks call a Bastile) begs leave to enquire of you (as it is likely you know more of what is going on in the political world than he does) if you think that it would be counted Sedition to ask a few questions about this said Direct Tax, and the manner of its being collected; and if you don't think they fall under that denomination, please to give them a place in your impartial vehicle of political knowledge, and oblige an

ESSEX DUTCHMAN.

Query 1st. If it is necessary for the State of New Jersey to make up its proportion of the demand made by the Government of the United States, for the ensuing year, is it not enough that they demand it of the State, and let them collect it in their own, or usual way?

2d. Is not the appointment of five Commissioners in this State, at 150 dollars a year, and three dollars per day, whilst actually engaged in said business, an additional and unnecessary tax upon this State?

3d. Is not the appointment of a numberless train of Deputies under said Commissioners, at a certain rate per cent. for their services, an additional and unnecessary tax upon the State?

4th. Is there any necessity of such appointments, when the State is adequate to the collecting such taxes, without their assistance?

5th. Has the State of New-Jersey ever refused to comply with any demand that has been made upon it by the General Government? If not, where is the necessity of those extraordinary appointments?

6th. Are not all those new and extraordinary appointments in this State, creating more dependents on the General Government, and thereby gradually alienating their affections from their friends and neighbors, and the good people of the State to which they respectively belong?—And pray, are not all these things in some measure dangerous to the liberties of the people?

I should be happy to have an answer to these few queries, as they leave a disagreeable impression on my mind (fearing) that whereas it will take a considerable sum to pay those already created officers—*if our Congress, in their wisdom,* at their next session, should see fit to tax our day-light, and our fire and candle light, it must also be necessary to appoint more such officers, and that would take more of my money; and as I am a Dutchman, and love money, I might be induced to ask more such questions—and perhaps (but I must know first if it is not sedition) I might grow more inquisitive, and wish to know what (besides raising a standing army to cram future taxes down our throats) is to become of the rest of the money?

KNOXVILLE, (*Tennessee*) October 16.

The following is a copy of a Presentment of the ALIEN and SEDITION Laws, by the Grand Jury of Hamilton District, at the last term of the Supreme Court.

“ September Session, 1798.

“ **W**E, the Grand Jury of the District of Hamilton, State of Tennessee, give as our opinion, that the law passed last session of Congress, called the *Alien Law*, is unconstitutional, oppressive, and derogatory to our general compact, by taking away the trial by Jury; we also think the act premature, it being passed prior to the year 1808. Also an act passed the same session, called the *Sedition act*, which has the appearance of cramping the press and privileges of a free Republican people, which may, in its progress, have an unhappy tendency on the minds of our fellow citizens.

“ Therefore we pray the Legislature of the State of Tennessee, to draw up a memorial, to be laid before the members, at the next session of Congress (if practicable) signifying our disapprobation of the above-recited acts, and that the Honorable Judges of the Superior Court cause the same to be laid before the Assembly of the State at their approaching session.

October 15, 1798.”

[*What a contrast between the Grand Jurors of Tennessee and Vermont !*]

PROVIDENCE, (*Rhode Island*) Nov. 9.

Sunday last arrived the ship *Zenobia*, Capt. W. Brown, in 45 days from Kingston, Jamaica.

List of Prizes at Kingston, the 12th of September last, handed us by Capt. Brown.

Schooner *Orion*, Stephenson, of Philadelphia, from Aux Cayes, bound home; vessel and cargo libeled as French property.

Sloop *Martha*, Bolton, from Charleston, bound to Savannah, libeled as French property.

Brig *Britannia*, Young, of North-Yarmouth, from Jaquemel, bound to Charleston, libeled as French property.

Brig *John Jay*, Broad, of Boston, from Aux-Cayes, condemned on suspicion of being French property.

Sloop *Fox*, of Charleston, libeled as bound to an enemy's port.

Ship *Union*, of New-York, ditto.

Schooner *Argo*, Gardner, of Baltimore, bound to Jaquemel, last from Curacao, where she was captured in May last by a French privateer and cleared; in pursuing her voyage, was captured and sent to Kingston, libeled for having Osnaburghs, a contraband, and for having been bound to an enemy's port.

Also a number of other vessels, names unknown, sent on and libeled as French property, when they could not find any other plea.—Those Masters who were so unfortunate as not to procure Bondsmen, were condemned without ceremony.

Capt. Richard Sisson, in a vessel from Baltimore, was sent in the day before Capt. Brown sailed.

RICHMOND, (*Virginia*), Nov. 22.

At a meeting of sundry Freeholders and other inhabitants of Caroline County, at the Court-house, on the 13th day of November, 1798, being Court day, of which previous notice had been given by advertisements, &c. They proceeded to take into consideration the alarming state of public affairs, and agreed upon the following Memorial, which they directed to be signed by their Chairman, on behalf of the meeting, attested by their Clerk, and presented to the General Assembly.

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

of the State of Virginia,

THE MEMORIAL

of a numerous meeting of the citizens of Caroline County, humbly represents,

THAT your Memorialists conceive it to be their duty to think, to decide, and to act with all their energies whenever liberty is endangered by domestic faction or foreign force. The man whose sincerity is absorbed by selfish calculations in speaking of the acts of government, will sacrifice his bravery to the same views whenever it becomes necessary to meet an enemy.

They therefore boldly declare it to be their opinion, that principles inconsistent with the public good, are avowed by official characters, patronised through newspapers, and sanctioned by laws.—That it is time to determine, whether the people of Ame-

rich, in throwing off the yoke of England, had no other object than to place it again on their necks—whether they asserted the right of self-taxation to oppress themselves; and not to guard against oppression—whether they withstood an attempt to transport them beyond sea to be tried for pretended offences, that they might be transported on suspicion, and condemned to banishment without trial—whether they refused to maintain the officers of George the third, for the sake of appointing swarms of officers to harass the people, and eat out their substance—whether they expelled a mercenary army paid by England, only to replace it by one paid by themselves—in short, whether they bravely fought for political existence, only to become a *felo de se*.

Experience is the parent of foresight, and without foresight, no human attempt can prosper. Let us therefore beware, lest judging by what we feel to-day, and relying on delusive profession, we shut our eyes against experience; and by forbearing to look forward, defer our efforts to escape threatening danger, until our efforts will be vain.

On the contrary, let us enquire of experience, whether such measures as are now maturing in America, have not begotten and supported despotism in other countries; and let us enquire of prudence, whether a seasonable defence does not depend exclusively on foresight? If Monarchy may be defined 'a power supported by force, corruption, and patronage,' it suggests an alarming idea. Must we then admit

that we already feel, what we profess only to fear? Or is Despotism is "*a violation of mental liberty, by controuling the rights of speaking and writing; and a violation of bodily liberty, by a subjection to punishment without trial*"—reflection recoils in reproaches upon us, for having tamely suffered that which destroys a man.

Your Memorialists consider freedom of person and of speech, as constituting the essence of political liberty. If the laws which threaten their existence are constitutional, the Constitution has been misunderstood, and is insufficient for the end of preserving human rights. If they are unconstitutional, the Government has usurped the power of the People, by constituting itself a creator of a new political system—it has committed rebellion against that to which it has sworn allegiance—and by violating the Constitution with a view to revolution, has dissolved the social compact, as far as it could. For if solemn oaths, and constitutional principles, are suffered to evaporate in the crucible of legislative expediency, this doctrine is capable of destroying every security for liberty within the power of man to devise.

It is urged, that these laws are not a pretext of tyranny, but expedient to unite us against France. Will a free people be drawn within the band of union, by aggressions upon their rights? The history of Greece and Persia, Holland and Spain, America and England, France and the Combinations, reply to these interrogatories. Instead of union, such

measures would obviously produce division. Division enables a Government, by playing party against party, in despicable altercation, like puppets moved from behind the scene, to govern all by the rule of its own pleasure ; for it both weakens a nation when opposed to a foreign enemy, and begets a correspondent diminution of popular power, in opposing domestic usurpation.

But if the militia is thus weakened by division, the expedient of a mercenary army is to hold the balance, and poise the parties. This is the last verse in the chapter of Expedients, and the first in that of Tyranny. What then is our prospect ? Civil dissension regulated by standing armies ; oppressive taxes, inflicted by corruption, and collected by the sword ; motion and speech according to law, or the public opinion regulated by garrisons.

Is it yet a question, whether liberty and property are safest in the hands of the people, or of masters civil or military ?—Are then all the modern improvements in the science of Government, to be demolished by an union of ambition and cupidity with ancient prejudices ? Measures, which are obliged to speak truth, are the only index of intention.

Symptoms of an alliance with a Monarchy, our old foe, and a war with a Republic, our old friend ; and a cohabitation of Tories, Refugees, Emigrants, and Monarchists, with the Administration, as monstrous as notorious, are additional solutions of intention. They portend, that the American Revolution

is to be from Monarchy to Monarchy—a sort of change of ministers; and that the blood and treasure of the People have been expended only to expose them to a new flock of harpies, more ravenous, because more lean. Is such the spirit and intention of the Constitution of the United States?—What then is to be done?—Will the Representatives of the People sit quietly, and await the blow, or will they act like men, and maintain rights derived from God, and acknowledged by compact? To their wisdom, to their patriotism is committed the sacred deposit—an unlimited confidence in your loyalty to their preservation, inspires us with a correspondent degree of resolution to support our State Legislature in such measures as it may deem necessary for the public good.

EDMUND PENDLETON, jun.

Chairman.

Attest,

JOHN PENDLETON, jun. *Sec'ry.*

The Federal Papers, with much exultation, anticipate the apostacy of the *Antient Dominion*:—They would, perhaps, be confirmed in their opinion, when they read the foregoing Memorial of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of Caroline—But, judging for ourselves, we think it does not look like dropping the Republican representation in Congress.

[*Aurora.*]

PHILADELPHIA, December 1.

Extract of a Letter from Virginia, dated November 18th, 1798.

"I enclose an extract from a letter, address'd by General MASON, to Colonel LYON, Member of Congress from the Western District of Vermont, and now prisoner in the Gaol of Vergennes, as the first sacrifice on the altar of the Sedition Bill. As the most enormous lies have been circulated in this country, respecting the Colonel's personal character, I beg leave to mention, that he established the first Smelting house that there was in the State of Vermont, and that he has eminently promoted the manufactures of that State.—The X, Y, and Z mania has fairly destroyed itself, by its own violation of probability; and it has already left us.—People here now laugh outright, as you and I always did, at the effrontery of the whole story."

GENERAL MASON, TO COLONEL LYON.

"Rasberry-Plain, Nov. 17, 1798.

"MY DEAR SIR,

"HAVING been several weeks from home, attending the Courts, your letter of the 14th ultimo did not reach me until this week, and then only through the channel of the public prints, to wit, the *Aurora*, and the second number of *Scourge*, sent me by your son. I had previously seen some indistinct accounts in the newspapers of your arrest and trial, which, though given with that false coloring for

which the *court papers* are so remarkable, did not fail to excite a very strong sensation in this state. Even the most inveterate tories, and devoted tools of power, though no doubt delighted at the persecution you have suffered, were not bold enough to proclaim their joy, or openly to advocate this daring outrage on liberty. People had been told that the Sedition Bill was harmless, was only meant as a bug-bear and would not be enforced. But when they see it so speedily carried into execution, and its first victim one of the Representatives of the People, every considerate man shudders at the danger with which civil liberty is threatened, and considers you as a martyr in its cause.——Your letter (which is rapidly running through all the papers,) will tend more to open the eyes of our fellow citizens than all the speeches of all the republican orators in the two last sessions of Congress. Their warnings against the arbitrary designs of domestic usurpation, covered by the pretext of necessity, arising from foreign dangers, were considered as idle forebodings never to be realized. But your case affords a fulfilment of those predictions, and brings men seriously to enquire *why, and by what authority is this thing done?* In the minds of Virginians, particularly, it sinks deep; because we well remember that when the Constitution was proposed for our adoption, and the want of a bill of rights complained of, we were told that personal liberty never could be endangered under the Constitution;

that it was merely a government of States having only a power over general concerns; that those barriers which were provided by the state constitutions to protect civil and religious liberty, were unnecessary in that instrument, because it contained no delegation of power which could possibly affect these rights. Nay, that it would be dangerous to attempt their security by a bill of rights, lest it might imply that any such powers were contemplated to be given to the general government; and, that should any thing in the enumeration be omitted which was necessary to be secured, it might be seized on by implication. This idea we find afterwards to have been fully embraced by the eleventh amendment, when it was found necessary to reconcile the Constitution, even to those majorities who had adopted it, by incorporating provisions equivalent to a bill of rights on the subjects of religious freedom, the trial by jury, the liberty of speech, and of the press; rights heretofore held sacred in America, but which will soon pass away and be forgotten, like the dreams of the night, unless the people shall be aroused by such flagrant violations of our social compact as are now passing in review before them.

Most men are too much engaged in their private avocations, and but few have an opportunity to compare the laws and proceedings of Government with the Constitution. But the ignominious suffering of a fellow-citizen, and particularly of one

in an elevated situation in society, cannot fail to awaken the public attention ; and whilst as a friend, I sincerely sympathise with you under your heavy load of oppression, I feel a consolation in the hope, that good may arise out of it ; that the people will be brought to reflect before it is too late, and not suffer themselves to be deluded by a false and groundless clamor about French influence and a French party in this country, until the foundations of their liberty, are sapped, all the barriers of the Constitution broke down, and themselves reduced to a state of vassalage.

Several with whom I have conversed, agree that the personal suffering to which you are exposed, is much more than the proportion you ought to bear in the common cause of Republicanism ; and as the fine is the only part of the sentence which can be participated by others, they have suggested that it should be paid by a subscription among the enemies of political persecution. With your assent, I have no doubt it can easily be done, and I will most thankfully undertake to promote it. Do write to me as early as you can. If any time before the middle of next month, direct to this place, as I do not expect to be in Philadelphia before Christmas.

FROM THE AURORA, of Nov. 29.

THE *Grand Council*, which has been assembled in this city for some days, consisting of a *selection* of military officers, it is reported, have manifested a disposition to advise the organization of a large STANDING ARMY.—If this should prove to be the fact, and that the advice given by the military Council is to raise and maintain a standing army, the people of America must look to their LIBERTIES. Look to the history of every nation on earth, and mark the progress inevitable from *Liberty* to *Despotism*.

Standing armies once established, a great and despotic body is created in the state, with interests hostile to the public liberties, and living under despotic laws, inconsistent with the spirit of a free government in any other circumstance than that of actual war.

WAR is the trade of men who have no other profession than that of arms—and as it is the prevailing passion of military men, to obtain *rank*, *power* and *distinction*, they will find it their interest to excite a spirit of war in the whole nation. Their success in exciting such a spirit will be proportioned to their influence and activity; and their ambition, from the very constitution of the military profession, will stimulate them to obtain influence, and to be ever active.

The desire of establishing a *standing army* in America, is as severe a burlesque upon our country as could possibly be invented by malicious ingenuity—After utterly overthrowing the mercenary legions of *Britain* with our hardy *yeomanry* and *militia*, we are now to be told, that our militia are either *unfit*, *incapable*, or *unable* to maintain the independence of our country!

The hired legions of all the despotic powers of Europe, have been defeated by the raw and undisciplined bravery of French *shoemakers, tailors, & hatter-dressers*, (for of such, say the Federalists, were the French armies composed)—yet, after the example of America, and the example of France, have taught us such lessons, our *militia* is to be set aside—or, as an *English Secretary at War* said, “a *balance* must be set up to keep the militia from *rebellion*!”

HALIFAX, (*Nova-Scotia*) November 17.

Britain's “wooden walls,” and *America's* “wooden walls” reciprocal.

Sunday last came up the harbor, in ten days from Newport, Rhode-Island, the United States *Shoop* of war *Herald*, Capt. Severs, and brig *Pickering*, Capt. Chapman. The brig *Commerce*, Capt. Childs, came under convoy of these vessels. The *Herald*, after anchoring, fired a salute, which was returned by Fort-George, on Citadel-Hill.—Soon after Cap. Severs and Capt. Chapman landed in the *Herald's* barge, and paid their respects to his Excellency the

Lieutenant Governor, Vice-Admiral Vandeput, and General Murray.—This pleasing preface of a return of harmony and reciprocal friendship, must afford the highest satisfaction to every friend of his country; and the firmness of the Federal Government, in refusing to become the dupes of French perfidy and seduction, is an inducement to every British subject, to treat the American flag with the highest respect, and her faithful citizens with every degree of attention and civility.

[Thus far from the Halifax Paper.]

[As a proof of the above remark, we give the following complete Evidences of their sincere Friendship to the citizens of America, which the gentlemen who came passengers in the sloop Citizen, from Halifax, have politely favored us with, and are ready to vouch for their authenticity.]

Information and particulars respecting the late Captures and Condemnations, by our **BRITISH FRIENDS.**

The ship Henrietta, of Philadelphia, Capt. Wicks, from Baltimore, bound to Cadiz; three days out, was taken on 9th September, by the Hynde frigate, Captain Larkum. Ship and cargo condemned, and claimants condemned to pay charges amounting to near 1000 Dollars.

The brig Hazard, of Georgetown, Capt. Drummond, from Bourdeaux, bound to New York, captured by the St. Albans, Capt. Pender, 27th August. The brig and homeward bound freight cleared; the out-

ward bound freight, with the homeward bound cargo, consisting chiefly of brandy and wine, amounting to about 80,000 dollars, condemned, claimants to pay charges.

The *shop Citizen*, of Boston, Capt. McLellan, from *Leogane* bound to Boston, captured by the *Hynde*, on or about the 22d Sept. and after detention of about five weeks cleared, but condemned to pay court charges and damages sustained from the capture, amounting to 1200 dollars.

The brig *Free-Mason*, of Boston, Capt. Small, from *Havannah*, bound to Boston; and brig *William*, of Philadelphia, Capt. Simpkins, bound to Philadelphia, was captured by the *Prevoyante*, Capt. Wyniss, on the 26th August, from a convoy of two American armed ships. Vessels and cargoes condemned—claimants to pay charges.

A Danish ship, freighted by Mr. John Potter, merchant, S. Carolina, under the same convoy, taken at the same time. Ship cleared; cargo and freight condemned; claimants to pay charges.

A Danish schooner, from *Havanna* to *Rhode-Island*, captured under the same convoy. Vessel and cargo cleared, claimants paying charges.

Ship *Little Mary*, from *Havannah*, to *St. Croix*; ship and cargo cleared; condemned to pay charges.

The cargoes of the last five vessels were sold at auction previous to their trial, without informing or consulting the claimants in any respect whatever.

REMARKS.

[Excellent connection, truly, between the U. States and Great-Britain!—While our “wooden walls” are employed in conveying vessels to Halifax, and heavy Taxes are laid on the people to support them, the “wooden walls” of his Majesty George the Third, are as busily employed in capturing American vessels, and conveying them to Halifax, for legal adjudication!—How must His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor at Halifax, General Vandeput, and even his Royal Highness Prince Edward, extol the condescension, and complacency of the United States! No wonder the Halifax Editors exult at our firmness in not becoming the dupes to France, as they wish no doubt to monopolize our dupeism to mother Britain.]

ALBANY, December 12.

Three Hundred and Ninety-six new officers are created in this State, under the Federal Government, in consequence of the laws for ascertaining the value of lands, &c. and for laying a Direct Tax, viz. 9 Commissioners, a Clerk to do. 63 Principal Assessors, and 323 Assistants !—[So goes the money.]

[illegible]

F A I R H A V E N, December, 1798.

A New-Jersey paper asserts, that the late election for members of Congress in that State, was conducted at Elizabeth Town with a truly Federal spirit.—The man who had the *audacity* to vote as his judgment directed him, in opposition to the

Federal ticket, was threatened either with the loss of patronage, the withdrawing of custom, or a dismissal from service.—One was threatened with being kicked down stairs, for handing a ticket to a person, with Mr. Condit's name on it, and was actually hustled out of the Court-House.

From the AURORA, Published by Mrs. BACHE, in Philadelphia.

THE papers of the United States, in noticing the great mortality among the *Printers* of this city, have stated the number short by about two thirds; in this office alone, eight persons have died—out of the Philadelphia Gazette office, nearly double that number; beside the mortality in the other newspaper and book offices—A person who has kept a register of the deaths in the printing branch, makes it *sixty two* persons.

The following sentiments on the trial of Col. LYON, are taken from a Southern paper.

“ Under the British Government, you could talk as you pleased, write as you pleased, censure King George the Third, if you pleased. But John Adams is not to be censured—he is *immaculate*! Did you, or did you not, fight for LIBERTY? The cause of our revolutionary war, appears in the present day as a dream.—*Unanimity in Judge, Lawyer, and Jury!* A Judge appointed by John Adams, an Attorney appointed by John Adams, a Jury summoned, selected by a Marshal appointed by John Adams!!!—It is time—but, as Benedict Arnold says—HUSH!

COMMUNICATION.

Hinesburgh, Nov. 9th, 1798.

"Last evening a number of members from the City Cabinet, on their return through this town in triumph of victory of the political Guillotine on the Republican necks in the southern part of the Western District, incautiously step'd too near a herd of swine, who found means to get at their diplomatic repository, among which was the civil commission of the county of Caledonia—to this the Herd paid a particular attention, and intirely devoured about three-fourths, as supernumerary rubbish, leaving the names and official signature of the remainder intire.

Alas! in Caledonia county,
The Justices were grown so plenty,
Each little town as thick could show on,
As pumpkins do the vines the grew on.
Indeed, they make the same use of them,
Only to feed their Hogs upon them.

'Tis hop'd those who may still survive,
Whom savage herds have left alive,
With honor may support their station,
Teach saucy Swine retaliation;
Assume the jaws of mastiff Dogs,
And in their turn eat up the Hogs.

We learn from Pittsburgh, that Mr. GALLATIN obtained his re-election to Congress, by a majority of 1740 votes. The *Aristos* had anticipated a disfe-

rent issue—but happily for the country, the bulk of Mr. Gallatin's constituents have shewn themselves capable of distinguishing between a real regard for the Federal Constitution, and the *spurious* federalism of the advocates for Standing Armies, Alien, and Sedition Laws.

Federal Aristocratic Creed.

I BELIEVE in J—— A——, the greatest Captain and mightiest Monarch under Heaven, and in T——y, his only Minister, our Lord, who sitteth above the Treasury.

I believe in blind submission to the powers that be,

In passive obedience and non-resistance,

In the infallibility of the President,

In the independency of the Senate,

In Jay's British Treaty,

In Alliance with Britain,

In the annihilation of Democracy,

In the expediency of a Nobility,

In the equity of a Funding System,

In the mysteries of Civil Government,

In the raising Lawyers only for Legislators,

In a war with the French Republic,—and

In the blessings of a National Debt everlasting.

AMEN.

[BEE.]

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